JAN. NO. 41

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SUPERMAN • DC • NATIONAL COMICS

MYSTERY IN SPACE

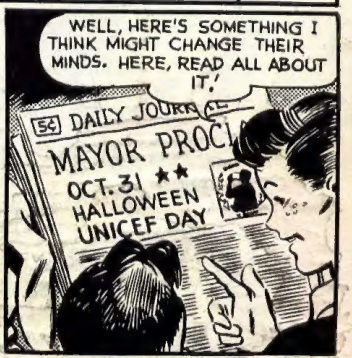
10¢

Featuring "The MISER of SPACE!"

I'D GIVE ANYTHING TO ADD THAT FLAME-JEWEL TO MY HOARD. YET I MUST DESTROY IT, EVEN THOUGH IT'S THE RAREST TREASURE IN THE UNIVERSE!

The TRICK is to TREAT All The World's Children!

SAY, ALLERGY, AREN'T YOU JUMPING THE GUN ON HALLOWEEN? IT'S STILL TWO DAYS OFF. AND WHY ALL THE GLOOM?
AW, WE WERE JUST TRYING ON OUR COSTUMES. BUT ALL THE PARENTS HAVE GANGED UP AND SAY WE CAN'T GO OUT. THEY SAY WE'LL GET IN TROUBLE.


WELL, HERE'S SOMETHING I THINK MIGHT CHANGE THEIR MINDS. HERE, READ ALL ABOUT IT.'
5¢ DAILY JOURNAL
MAYOR PROCL
OCT. 31 ★★
HALLOWEEN
UNICEF DAY

THAT NIGHT...
SEE, DAD THIS IS A GOOD THING. THE TRICK-OR-TREAT PENNIES, NICKELS AND DIMES WE COLLECT GO TO HELP SICK, HUNGRY KIDS ALL OVER THE WORLD. AREN'T YOU GOING TO CHANGE YOUR MIND?
WELL, I MIGHT... WHERE ARE YOU OFF TO, BINKY?

OH, MY CROWD'S HELPING WITH THIS, TOO-- MAKING POSTERS. HERE'S MY FIRST ONE.
WHAT YOUR TRICK OR TREAT MONEY WILL BUY
1¢-VACCINE TO PROTECT A CHILD AGAINST TUBERCULOSIS
5¢-PENICILLIN TO CURE A CHILD OF YAWS, A CRIPPLING TROPICAL DISEASE.
10¢-50 GLASSES of MILK

LATER...
SOME PARTY THEY'RE GIVING US.'
YOU DESERVE IT. YOU KIDS HAVE DONE A WONDERFUL JOB TONIGHT FOR UNICEF--THE UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND.'
OUR KIDS HAVE DONE IT AGAIN
COLLECTION

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the MISER of SPACE!

WHAT WOULD A MAN GAIN BY LIVING ALONE--IN POVERTY--ON A REMOTE ASTEROID IN SPACE, WHILE, AT HIS FEET, LAY THE WEALTH OF WORLDS? POSSESSING SUCH RICHES, HE COULD BUY ANY LUXURY OFFERED BY ANY PLANET--YET, INSTEAD, HE CHOSE THAT LONELY, THREADBARE EXISTENCE! WHY?

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IN THE 23RD CENTURY, THOUGH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS AMONG THE PLANETS OF THE SOLAR SYSTEM ARE STRAINED, CELESTIAL BUSINESS--SUCH AS INTERPLANETARY SIGHTSEEING TRIPS--GOES ON...
GUIDE--DO YOU THINK WAR WILL BREAK OUT?
NOT A SHOOTING WAR, M'AM! THIS COLD WAR IS LIKE THE ONE THEY HAD ON EARTH BACK IN THE 20TH CENTURY...

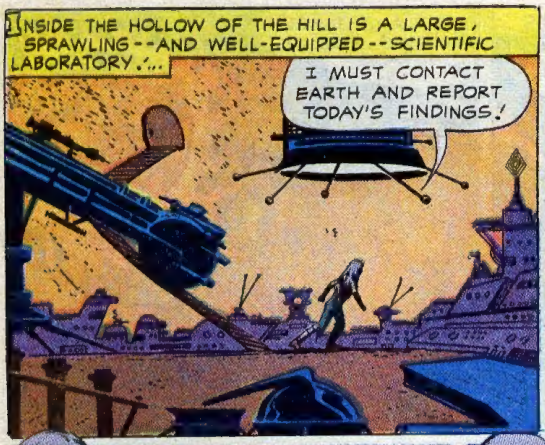
IN THOSE DAYS, A FEW NATIONS HAD THE HYDROGEN BOMB--BUT EACH WAS AFRAID TO START AN ATTACK, FOR FEAR THEY'D ALL BE DESTROYED! THAT'S WHY THERE WAS NO WAR THEN!
GUIDE

WELL, SAME THING TODAY! JUPITER AND EARTH ARE EACH CAPABLE OF ANNIHILATING THE OTHER, BUT ONLY AT THE CERTAIN COST OF ITS OWN DESTRUCTION!
OH, GUIDE! MAY I USE YOUR VIEW-SCOPE? WE'RE PASSING THE ASTEROID OF THE SPACE-MISER!

I'VE HEARD SO MUCH ABOUT THIS FABULOUS MISER OF SPACE! I DON'T WANT TO GO BACK TO EARTH WITHOUT SEEING HIM!
YOU CAN WATCH HIM THROUGH THIS VIEW-SCOPE!

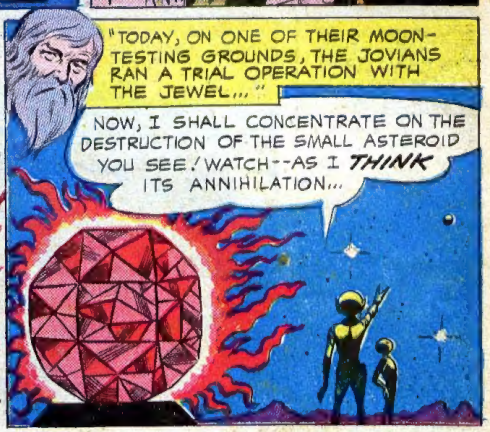
GOSH! LOOK AT ALL THOSE TREASURES AROUND HIM!
YET WITH ALL THAT WEALTH, HE PREFERS TO LIVE ALONE IN ABJECT POVERTY! IT'S ONE OF THE MYSTERIES OF SPACE!

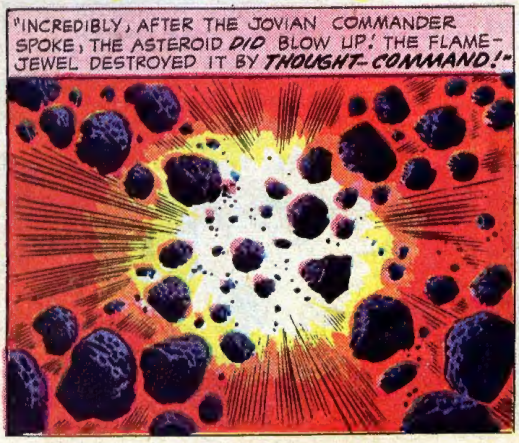
AFTER THE SIGHTSEEING ROCKET FADES IN THE DISTANCE, THE SPACE-MISER APPROACHES WHAT APPEARS TO BE THE SIDE OF A CRAGGY HILL, AND...
NOW THAT THOSE SIGHTSEERS HAVE GONE, I CAN GO BACK TO WORK...


INSIDE THE HOLLOW OF THE HILL IS A LARGE, SPRAWLING--AND WELL-EQUIPPED--SCIENTIFIC LABORATORY.'...
I MUST CONTACT EARTH AND REPORT TODAY'S FINDINGS!

SOON, DIALS TURN--LIGHTS FLUTTER, AND...
HELLO, STATION-X--HELLO, STATION-X! I LEARNED TODAY ABOUT THE FANTASTIC SECRET WEAPON POSSESSED BY JUPITER...

"IT'S A SYNTHETIC FLAME-JEWEL, WHICH HAS THE AMAZING POWER TO DESTROY A TARGET BY THOUGHT!"

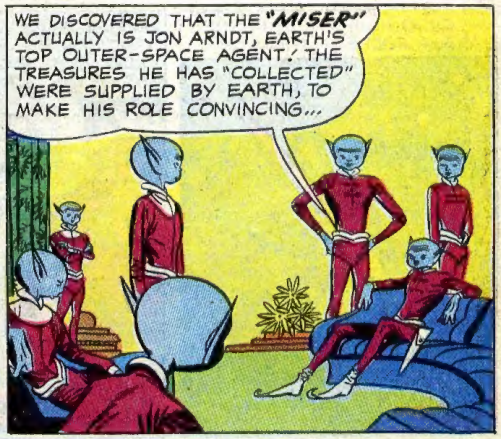

"TODAY, ON ONE OF THEIR MOON-TESTING GROUNDS, THE JOVIANS RAN A TRIAL OPERATION WITH THE JEWEL..."
NOW, I SHALL CONCENTRATE ON THE DESTRUCTION OF THE SMALL ASTEROID YOU SEE! WATCH--AS I THINK ITS ANNIHILATION...


"INCREDIBLY, AFTER THE JOVIAN COMMANDER SPOKE, THE ASTEROID DID BLOW UP! THE FLAME-JEWEL DESTROYED IT BY THOUGHT-COMMAND!"

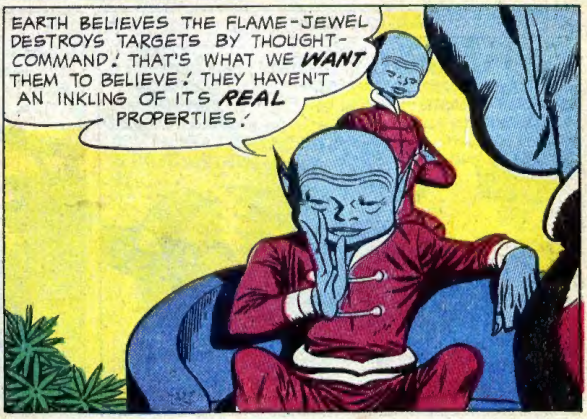
BACK ON EARTH, IN THE HEXAGON TOWER...
THIS MEANS JUPITER HAS THE ULTIMATE WEAPON BY WHICH TO DESTROY EARTH!
GREAT STARS! A BLINDING FLASH IN SPACE! HOLD ON...

ON THE ASTEROID, THE "MISER" RUSHES FROM HIS HIDEOUT, AND...
THE JOVIAN ROCKETSHIP, BEARING THE FLAME-JEWEL BACK TO THE PLANET--EXPLODED!
THE FLAME-JEWEL--FLOATING FREE IN SPACE!
RACING BACK TO THE TRANSMITTER, THE "MISER" REPORTS HIS FINDINGS, AND...
LISTEN, JON ARNDT! YOU MUST GET THAT FLAME-JEWEL BEFORE THE JOVIANS RETRIEVE IT! HURRY!
A MOMENT LATER, A LARGE PANEL ATOP THE HILL SLIDES OPEN, AND A ONE-MAN ROCKET ROARS OUT...
AT A TREMENDOUS SPEED THE ROCKET ZIPS INTO SPACE, WHERE...
GOT IT!
UPON HIS RETURN TO THE SECRET HIDEOUT...
GOOD WORK! NOW WE WILL TEST THE FLAME-JEWEL OURSELVES! AT 0400 HOURS WE WILL SEND A DRONE-TARGET ROCKET INTO SPACE! AT 0415 YOU WILL THINK ITS DESTRUCTION!
CHECK!
MEANWHILE, ON THE PLANET JUPITER, IN THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE WAR PARTY...
CHECK!...
YOU SEE, WE HEAR EVERYTHING GOING ON BETWEEN THE "MISER" AND EARTH! AND OUR PLAN TO GET THE FLAME-JEWEL INTO THEIR POSSESSION HAS WORKED PERFECTLY THUS FAR!

UNDERSTAND, H'RWA, THIS IS THE LAST CHANCE THE WAR PARTY HAS TO CONTROL JUPITER.! IF YOU FAIL, WE OF THE PEACE PARTY TAKE CONTROL.!
WE WON'T FAIL, I ASSURE YOU.! HASN'T ALL GONE WELL SO FAR?


WE DISCOVERED THAT THE "MISER" ACTUALLY IS JON ARNDT, EARTH'S TOP OUTER-SPACE AGENT.! THE TREASURES HE HAS "COLLECTED" WERE SUPPLIED BY EARTH, TO MAKE HIS ROLE CONVINCING...

...THUS, THROUGH ARNDT, EARTH HAS UNWITTINGLY GIVEN US THE LONG SOUGHT-AFTER METHOD OF SETTING THE FLAME-JEWEL, OUR GREATEST SECRET WEAPON, ONTO EARTH.!

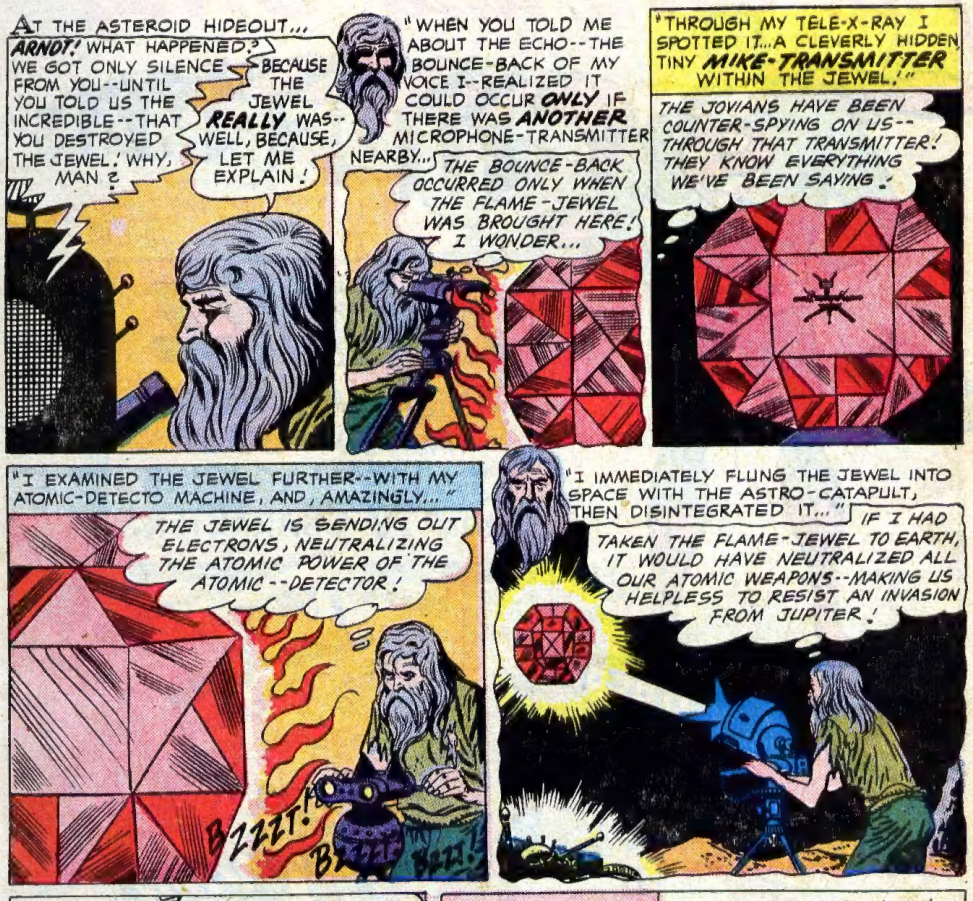

EARTH BELIEVES THE FLAME-JEWEL DESTROYS TARGETS BY THOUGHT-COMMAND.! THAT'S WHAT WE WANT THEM TO BELIEVE.! THEY HAVEN'T AN INKLING OF ITS REAL PROPERTIES.!

BUT WON'T THEY DISCOVER THE HOAX WHEN THEY THEMSELVES TEST THE JEWEL?

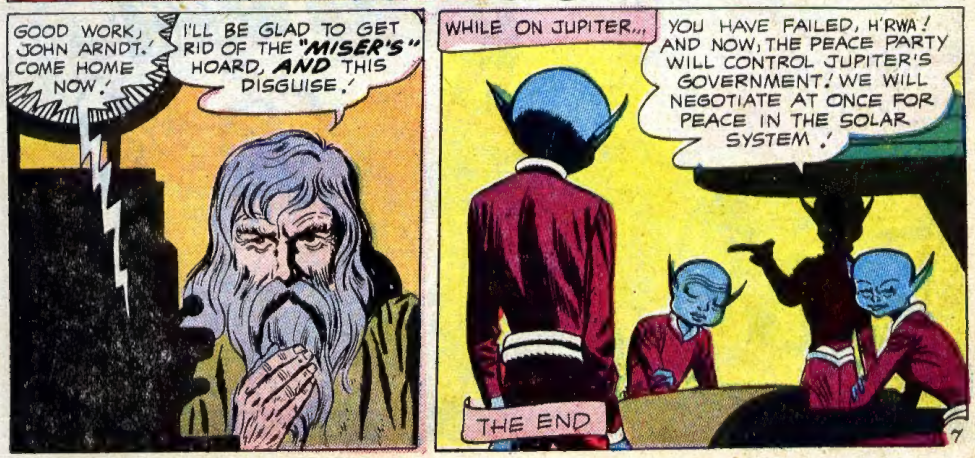
WE'VE PREPARED FOR THAT.! WITHIN THE JEWEL WE'VE CONCEALED A TINY MICROPHONE-TRANSMITTER.! WE RECEIVE EARTH'S EVERY CONVERSATION WITH ARNDT.!

WE WILL DESTROY EARTH'S DROVE-TARGET ROCKET THE MOMENT ARNDT "THINKS" ITS DESTRUCTION! THEY WILL BE CONVINCED THE JEWEL DID IT--AND WILL TAKE IT TO EARTH--TO DESTROY THEMSELVES.!

AT 0400 HOURS, THE DRONE-TARGET ROCKETS INTO SPACE...
AND AT 0415 HOURS, JON ARNDT, IN HIS ASTEROID HIDE-OUT, FACES THE MYSTERIOUS FLAME-JEWEL...
NOW... I'LL DESTROY THE TARGET BY THOUGHT-COMMAND! TARGET--BLOW UP!
AT THE VERY SPLIT-SECOND JON ARNDT SPEAKS AND THINKS...
A MOMENT LATER, ON JUPITER...
YOU SEE, OUR OWN MISSILE EXPLODED THE DRONE-TARGET! NOW EARTH IS CONVINCED OF THE FLAME-JEWEL'S "POWERS"!
IT WORKED, STATION-X--IT WORKED! I THOUGHT-COMMANDED THE TARGET TO DESTRUCTION!
WHILE IN THE ASTEROID HIDEOUT...
REPEAT, PLEASE! IT'S DIFFICULT TO HEAR YOU! THERE'S AN ECHO--A BOUNCE-BACK--OF YOUR VOICE!
THE ECHO OCCURRED BEFORE, WHEN WE FIRST DISCUSSED THE DRONE-TARGET! REPEAT, PLEASE--REPEAT...
NO! I CANNOT REPEAT! SOMETHING IS WRONG!
THEN, SOMETIME LATER, IN THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE WAR PARTY ON JUPITER...
WHAT WENT WRONG? WHAT POSSIBLY COULD BE WRONG?
THEIR CONFOUNDED SPACE-AGENT DESTROYED THE FLAME-JEWEL! WHY? WHY?


AT THE ASTEROID HIDEOUT...
ARNDT! WHAT HAPPENED? WE GOT ONLY SILENCE FROM YOU--UNTIL YOU TOLD US THE INCREDIBLE--THAT YOU DESTROYED THE JEWEL! WHY, MAN?
BECAUSE THE JEWEL REALLY WAS--WELL, BECAUSE, LET ME EXPLAIN!
"WHEN YOU TOLD ME ABOUT THE ECHO--THE BOUNCE-BACK OF MY VOICE I--REALIZED IT COULD OCCUR ONLY IF THERE WAS ANOTHER MICROPHONE-TRANSMITTER NEARBY...
THE BOUNCE-BACK OCCURRED ONLY WHEN THE FLAME-JEWEL WAS BROUGHT HERE! I WONDER...
"THROUGH MY TELE-X-RAY I SPOTTED IT...A CLEVERLY HIDDEN TINY MIKE-TRANSMITTER WITHIN THE JEWEL!"
THE JOVIANS HAVE BEEN COUNTER-SPYING ON US--THROUGH THAT TRANSMITTER! THEY KNOW EVERYTHING WE'VE BEEN SAYING!

"I EXAMINED THE JEWEL FURTHER--WITH MY ATOMIC-DETECTO MACHINE, AND, AMAZINGLY..."
THE JEWEL IS SENDING OUT ELECTRONS, NEUTRALIZING THE ATOMIC POWER OF THE ATOMIC--DETECTOR!
BZZZT!
"I IMMEDIATELY FLUNG THE JEWEL INTO SPACE WITH THE ASTRO-CATAPULT, THEN DISINTEGRATED IT..."
IF I HAD TAKEN THE FLAME-JEWEL TO EARTH, IT WOULD HAVE NEUTRALIZED ALL OUR ATOMIC WEAPONS--MAKING US HELPLESS TO RESIST AN INVASION FROM JUPITER!


GOOD WORK, JOHN ARNDT. COME HOME NOW.
I'LL BE GLAD TO GET RID OF THE "MISER'S" HOARD, AND THIS DISGUISE.
WHILE ON JUPITER...
YOU HAVE FAILED, H'RWA! AND NOW, THE PEACE PARTY WILL CONTROL JUPITER'S GOVERNMENT! WE WILL NEGOTIATE AT ONCE FOR PEACE IN THE SOLAR SYSTEM.
THE END

The ONE and ONLY
SUPERMAN
REG. U.S. PAT. OFF.
is STILL
AMERICA'S MOST TALKED-ABOUT COMICS MAGAZINE and TV CHARACTER!
ON SALE AT ALL NEWSSTANDS
SUPERMAN
SUPERMAN'S PAL JIMMY OLSEN
ACTION COMICS
WORLD'S FINEST
HIS AMAZING ADVENTURES APPEAR IN
4 GREAT MAGAZINES!
SUPERMAN
DC
NATIONAL COMICS

The Planet that Advanced Backward!

WHEN JANOS AND HIS FAMILY LANDED ON REMOTE ***TYRO,*** THEY PLUNGED INTO THE STRANGEST OF ALL MYSTERIES--FOR ON THIS TINY PLANET THEY FOUND A PEOPLE THAT HAD ABANDONED MODERN CIVILIZATION AND RETURNED TO THE PRIMITIVE LIFE OF THE CAVEMAN! WHAT FOLLOWS IS ***HOW*** AND ***WHY*** THIS CAME TO BE...

LOOK! COMING FROM THOSE DECAYING SKYSCRAPERS-- ***PRIMITIVE MEN!*** IF THEY ATTACK WITH THEIR BOWS AND ARROWS, I'M READY-- WITH MY RAY-GUN!

IN THE YEAR 3000, JANOS AND HIS FAMILY TAKE OFF FROM EARTH IN THEIR SPACE-ROADSTER--HOLIDAY BOUND!

A CHANGE OF SCENERY WILL DO US A WORLD OF GOOD, HONEY!

YES, DEAR! AND FOR A WHILE WE CAN FORGET ABOUT THE THREAT OF WAR BETWEEN EARTH AND SATURN!

DAYS LATER, SOMEWHERE FAR OFF THE USUAL SPACE-LANES, THE ROADSTER DEVELOPS ENGINE TROUBLE...

OH, JANOS, WHERE CAN WE LAND FOR REPAIRS?

THERE'S AN ISOLATED LITTLE PLANET NAMED *TYRO* NEARBY! I REMEMBER IT FROM THE ACCOUNTS OF HOW IT WAS COLONIZED FIFTY YEARS AGO...

"BEFORE THE CARGO SHIP DEPARTED, ITS ENGINEERS BUILT METALLIC SKY-SCRAPERS, ROCKET CRUISERS, AND ALL MODERN CONVENIENCES..."

TYRO ALMOST LOOKS LIKE A TINY EARTH NOW, CAPTAIN.

"ONE OF OUR SUPER-CARGO SHIPS LANDED THERE, BRINGING COLONISTS AND SUPPLIES..."

IT'S A TINY, REMOTE PLANET, BUT WE'LL MAKE YOU COLONISTS AS COMFORTABLE AS THOUGH YOU WERE HOME ON EARTH!

THERE'S *TYRO* AHEAD! WE'LL BE ITS FIRST VISITORS SINCE IT WAS COLONIZED!

GOSH, DAD--IT'S SMALLER THAN EARTH'S MOON! AND LOOK--IT HAS *TWO* SUNS--ONE RED AND ONE *GREEN!*

BUT UPON LANDING, A STRANGE SIGHT AWAITS THE TOURISTS...

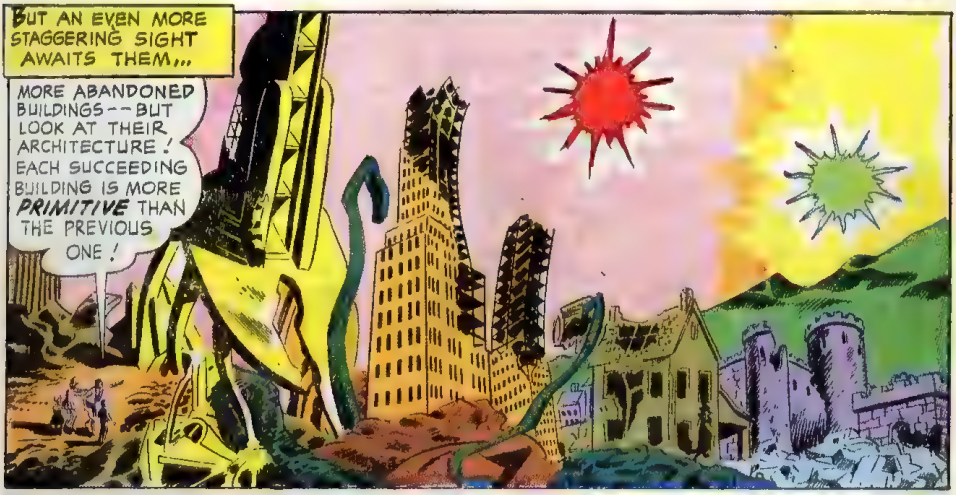
THE SKYSCRAPERS--THEY'RE ONLY CRUMBLING HULKS NOW!

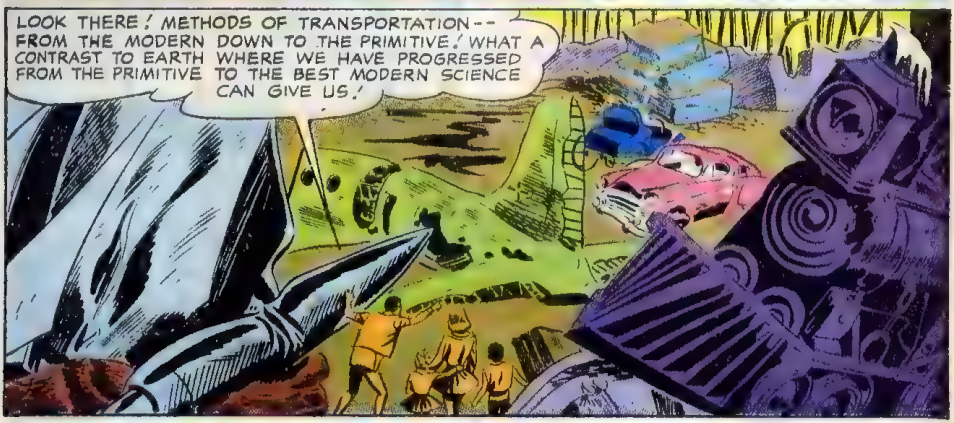
AND LOOK THERE! ABANDONED ROCKET CRUISERS--RUSTING UNDER *TYRO'S* TWIN SUNS!

EVERYWHERE THE TOURISTS SEE THE ABANDONED, DECAYING WRECKAGE OF WHAT ONCE WAS A MODERN CIVILIZATION!

WHAT COULD HAVE HAPPENED? AND WHERE ARE THE COLONISTS? ARE THEY DEAD, TOO?

LET'S KEEP WALKING! MAYBE WE'LL RUN INTO SOMEBODY!


BUT AN EVEN MORE STAGGERING SIGHT AWAITS THEM...
MORE ABANDONED BUILDINGS--BUT LOOK AT THEIR ARCHITECTURE! EACH SUCCEEDING BUILDING IS MORE PRIMITIVE THAN THE PREVIOUS ONE!


LOOK THERE! METHODS OF TRANSPORTATION--FROM THE MODERN DOWN TO THE PRIMITIVE! WHAT A CONTRAST TO EARTH FROM THE PRIMITIVE WHERE WE HAVE PROGRESSED TO THE BEST MODERN SCIENCE CAN GIVE US!

IT'S AS IF EVOLUTION ON THIS PLANET IS GOING IN REVERSE!

THEN, JUST AHEAD--FROM PRIMITIVE LOG CABINS, EMERGE THE PEOPLE OF THE BACKWARD PLANET!
GREETINGS, EARTHMEN! WELCOME TO TYRO!
THE COLONISTS! BUT THEY LOOK MORE LIKE ANCIENT CAVEMEN!

AS THE LEADER OF TYRO'S PEOPLE TRIES TO ANSWER THE VISITORS' MANY QUESTIONS...

YES, I GUESS YOU MIGHT SAY THAT ON **TYRO** EVOLUTION AND PROGRESS HAVE GONE BACKWARDS -- BUT FOR GOOD REASONS...

"YOU SEE, SOON AFTER WE SETTLED ON **TYRO**, OUR SHINY, METALLIC SKYSCRAPERS ATTRACTED A HORDE OF FLYING INSECTS..."

THOSE GIGANTIC INSECTS -- THEY'RE **EATING THE METAL!** THEY'RE SOME TYPE OF **TERMITE!**

WE'LL HAVE TO PUT UP **BRICK** BUILDINGS!

"THEN, TO OUR DISMAY, PERIODICALLY OUR DWELLINGS OF BRICK AND MORTAR WOULD CRUMBLE...

IT'S DUE TO **TYRO'S** ERRATIC ORBIT! OUR BUILDINGS COLLAPSE WHENEVER WE MOVE CLOSER TO THE **GREEN SUN!**

EVIDENTALLY THE **GREEN SUN** EMITS A RADIATION THAT GRADUALLY DISINTEGRATES BRICK!

AND SO, AFTER MUCH EXPERIMENTATION WITH MATERIAL AND STYLE, STRANGELY ENOUGH WE LEARNED THAT ON THIS WORLD THE LOG CABIN MADE THE STURDIEST DWELLING!

I UNDERSTAND THAT NOW -- BUT WHY DID YOU GIVE UP ROCKET SHIPS AND AUTOMOBILES?

"WE SOON LEARNED THAT ROCKET SHIPS, MADE FOR TRAVELING GREAT DISTANCES, WERE IMPRACTICAL ON TINY TYRO..."

WE KEEP OVERSHOOTING OUR LANDING FIELDS! SIMPLE AIRPLANES OF THE 20TH CENTURY WOULD DO BETTER ON THIS LITTLE PLANET!

"BUT THE PROPELLERS OF AIRPLANES STIRRED UP CURRENTS OF AIR, WHICH ON TINY *TYRO* SOON SWELLED INTO GREAT STORMS...

WHEEE-EEEEEEEEEEEEEEE

THE CURRENTS ARE GROWING INTO *TORNADOES!* WE MUST GROUND ALL OUR AIRPLANES!

"WE TRIED RAILROAD TRAVEL, BUT *TYRO* IS A *HOLLOW* WORLD, AND THE VIBRATIONS OF HEAVY TRAIN WHEELS CREATED *EARTHQUAKES!*"

IT'S ANOTHER QUAKE! RUN FOR YOUR LIVES!

R-RR-RUMBLE

"NEXT WE TRIED PRIMITIVE AUTOMOBILES ON RUBBER TIRES, BUT AS THE NOXIOUS GAS FUMES LEAKED INTO *TYRO'S* ATMOSPHERE..."

TOO MUCH POISONOUS GAS IS COLLECTING ON THIS TINY WORLD! WE MUST STOP THE RUNNING OF ALL AUTOMOBILES!

COUGH! COUGH!

AND SO, AFTER MUCH TRIAL AND ERROR, WE WERE FORCED TO RELY ON SAFE, PRIMITIVE TRANSPORTATION--CARTS PULLED BY *TYRO'S* OX-LIKE BEASTS!

BUT WHY DO YOU WEAR ANIMAL SKINS INSTEAD OF PLASTIC CLOTHING?

"WHEN OUR PLASTIC CLOTHES BEGAN TO ROT, IT MYSTIFIED US, BUT AFTER INVESTIGATION..."

TYRO'S EXOTIC PLANT LIFE GIVES OFF AN AROMA THAT DECAYS ALL SYNTHETIC FIBRE!

FROM NOW ON WE'LL HAVE TO MAKE CLOTHES FROM OUR STORE OF COTTON AND WOOL!

BUT IN TIME OUR STORE OF WOOL AND COTTON WAS USED UP, AND WITHOUT SHEEP ON *TYRO*, WE WERE FORCED TO USE ANIMAL SKINS!

I SEE! BUT WHY DO YOU HUNT WITH BOWS AND ARROWS INSTEAD OF *RAY-GUNS?*

"IN HUNTING *TYRO'S* BEASTS FOR PRECIOUS FOOD AND SKINS, WE QUICKLY DISCOVERED RAY-GUNS WERE OF NO USE AT ALL..."

IT DISINTEGRATED THE ANIMAL COMPLETELY! THE CHEMICAL STRUCTURE OF TYRO'S ANIMALS ARE TOO UNSTABLE FOR OUR RAY-GUNS!

"NEXT WE TRIED THE MORE PRIMITIVE RIFLES OF THE 20TH CENTURY--BUT ON TINY *TYRO* THEIR BLASTS BECAME MAGNIFIED TO A TERRIBLE DEGREE..."

UHHH! MY EARS--DEAFENED!

BLAM

AND SO THE SILENT BUT PRIMITIVE BOW AND ARROW BECAME THE MOST PRACTICAL WEAPON HUNTING! AS YOU SEE--ON *TYRO*, EVERY BACKWARD STEP WE TOOK--WAS A STEP *FORWARD!*

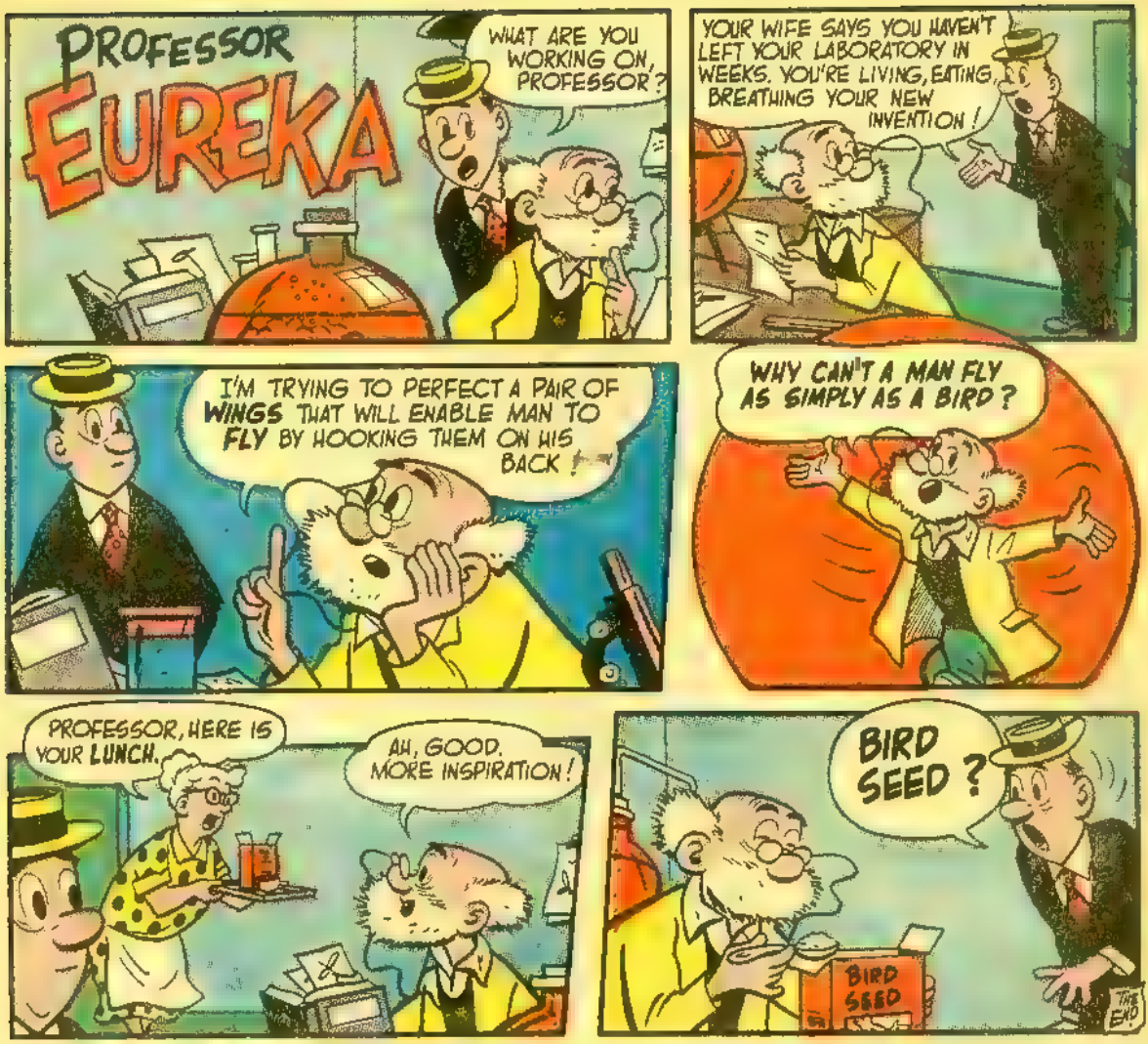
BUT IT MUST BE TERRIBLE FOR YOU TO LIVE HERE IN SUCH PRIMITIVE CONDITIONS...

I SEE THAT YOU PITY US--BUT YOU MUSTN'T--FOR HERE WE HAVE FOUND PEACE AND TRUE CONTENTMENT!

HERE WE LIVE SIMPLY, CLOSE TO NATURE! WE WOULD NEVER WANT TO RETURN TO THE COMPLICATED, NERVE-WRACKING WORLD WE ONCE LEFT--A WORLD OF TENSION AND CONSTANT THREAT OF ATOMIC WARS...

JANOS, SUDDENLY I DON'T WANT TO GO BACK TO EARTH AGAIN! LET'S STAY TOO, DARLING!

YES, HONEY--I THINK WE'VE FINALLY FOUND A REAL HOME AT LAST!


PROFESSOR EUREKA
WHAT ARE YOU WORKING ON, PROFESSOR?
YOUR WIFE SAYS YOU HAVEN'T LEFT YOUR LABORATORY IN WEEKS. YOU'RE LIVING, EATING, BREATHING YOUR NEW INVENTION!
I'M TRYING TO PERFECT A PAIR OF WINGS THAT WILL ENABLE MAN TO FLY BY HOOKING THEM ON HIS BACK!
WHY CAN'T A MAN FLY AS SIMPLY AS A BIRD?
PROFESSOR, HERE IS YOUR LUNCH.
AH, GOOD. MORE INSPIRATION!
BIRD SEED?
BIRD SEED
THE END

To the BOYS and GIRLS of America--

THIS FAMOUS SYMBOL IS YOUR

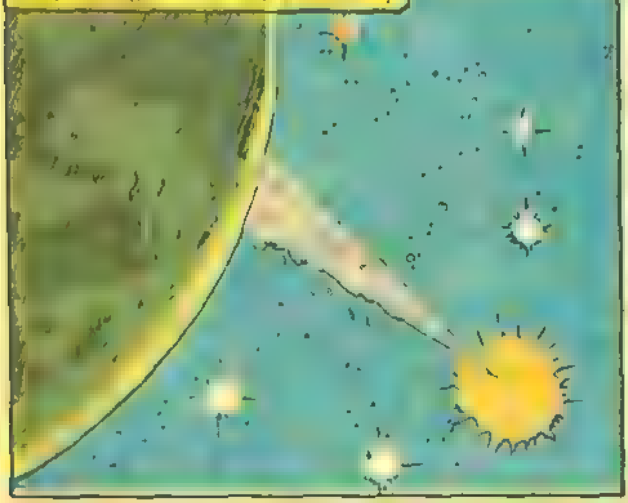
SUPERMAN DC NATIONAL COMICS

GUARANTEE

OF THE BEST IN COMICS READING

MYSTERIES in SPACE!

IF THE ENTIRE RADIATION OUTPUT OF THE SUN COULD BE CONCENTRATED ON A SOLID 1 MILE WIDE, COLUMN OF ICE EXTENDING FROM THE EARTH TO THE SUN—HOW LONG WOULD IT TAKE THE SUN'S RAD A [illegible] TO MELT THE ICE COLUMN?

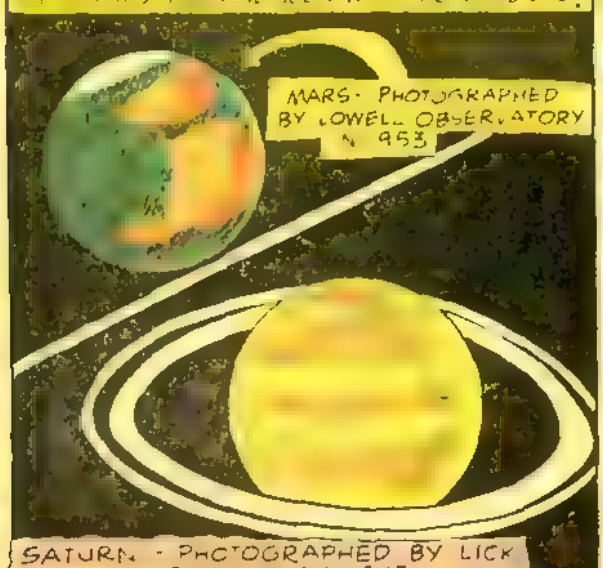


THE COLUMN OF ICE WOULD COMPLETELY MELT IN *ONE SECOND!* THE RESULTING WATER VAPOR WOULD BE TURNED INTO STEAM IN *EIGHT SECONDS!*

ACCORDING TO MATHEMATICAL CALCULATIONS, THERE ARE 200 BILLION STARS IN OUR MILKY WAY GALAXY. IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO SEE ALL THESE STARS!

SEVERAL BILLION OF THE GALAXY'S STARS CANNOT BE SEEN FROM EARTH! THEY EXIST IN *"INVISIBLE FORM"*—SUCH AS DARK STARS AND DARK CLOUDS!

CAN ANY OF THE PLANETS IN OUR SOLAR SYSTEM BE VIEWED MORE CLEARLY WITH A TELESCOPE THAN THE EARTH'S MOON BE SEEN WITH THE NAKED EYE?



WE CAN SEE THE MOON MORE DISTINCTLY WITHOUT THE AID OF OPTICAL INSTRUMENTS THAN ANY OF THE PLANETS OBSERVED TELESCOPICALLY!

THERE ARE 31 MOONS IN THE SOLAR SYSTEM. ASSUMING ALL THESE MOONS COULD BE PLACED SIDE BY SIDE, WOULD THE COMBINED DIAMETERS EQUAL THE DIAMETER OF ANY SINGLE PLANET?

THE ARTIFICIAL SATELLITE MADE UP OF ALL 31 MOONS WOULD HAVE A DIAMETER OF ABOUT 31,700 MILES. THIS IS ALMOST THE SIZE OF *URANUS*, THE 3RD LARGEST PLANET.

THE ANTI-GRAVITY MAN!

IN MY HECTIC CAREER AS A SPACE-CABBY, I'VE DRIVEN PASSENGERS TO MANY STRANGE DESTINATIONS THROUGHOUT THE UNIVERSE! BUT NOW I'M HANDED THE IMPOSSIBLE ASSIGNMENT OF DRIVING A FARE TO... ***NOWHERE!***

AMAZING! THE PROFESSOR'S RADIATING AN ANTI-GRAVITY FORCE THAT CLEARS A PATH FOR MY CAB THROUGH THIS METEOR SWARM!

"I'M MID-WAY BETWEEN WORLDS ONE DAY WHEN TO MY SURPRISE, I HEAR A VOICE COMING FROM MY DASHBOARD RADIO! "

TAXI! SPACE-TAXI!

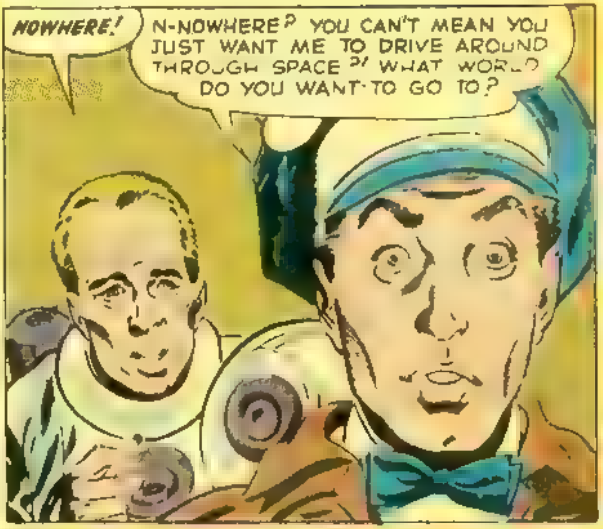
HUH? WHY WOULD ANYBODY BE WAITING FOR A TAXI OUT HERE IN ***EMPTY SPACE?***

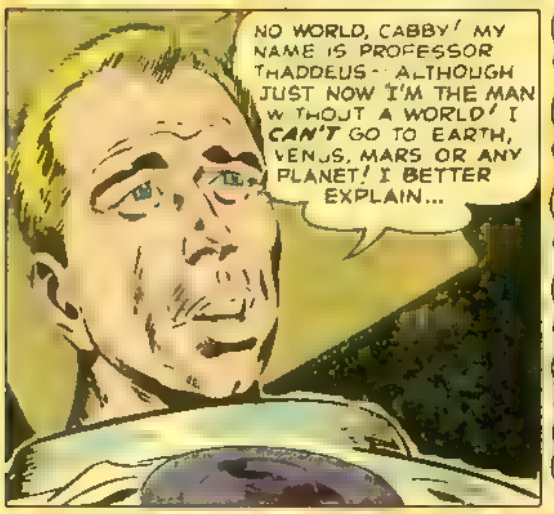
"IT'S A MAN FLOATING IN A SPACE-SUIT, CALLING ME WITH HIS HELMET RADIO!"

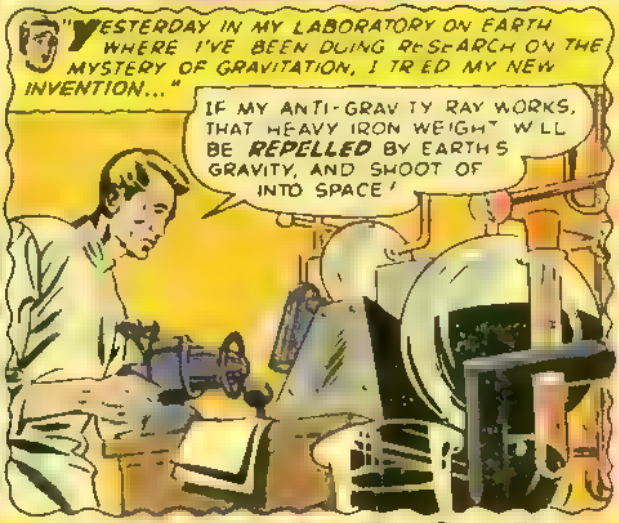
THE TAXI SERVICE OUT THIS WAY IS... ER... MISERABLE! GLAD YOU CAME ALONG!

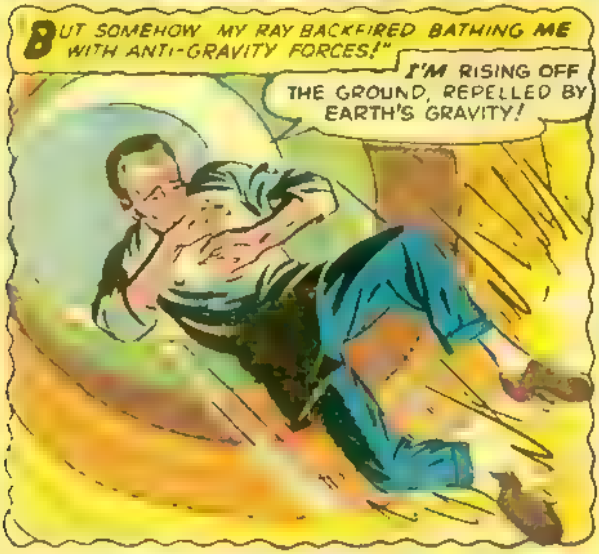
THIS IS LIKE PICKING UP A TAXI FARE ON EARTH IN THE MIDDLE OF THE OCEAN!

STRANGELY HE HAS TO PULL HIMSELF INTO MY CAB..."
THAT WAS...UH HARD WORK!
WHERE TO, SIR?


NOWHERE!
N-NOWHERE? YOU CAN'T MEAN YOU JUST WANT ME TO DRIVE AROUND THROUGH SPACE?! WHAT WORLD DO YOU WANT TO GO TO?


NO WORLD, CABBY! MY NAME IS PROFESSOR THADDEUS - ALTHOUGH JUST NOW I'M THE MAN W THOUT A WORLD! I CAN'T GO TO EARTH, VENUS, MARS OR ANY PLANET! I BETTER EXPLAIN...


"YESTERDAY IN MY LABORATORY ON EARTH WHERE I'VE BEEN DOING RESEARCH ON THE MYSTERY OF GRAVITATION, I TRIED MY NEW INVENTION..."
IF MY ANTI-GRAVITY RAY WORKS, THAT HEAVY IRON WEIGHT WILL BE REPELLED BY EARTH'S GRAVITY, AND SHOOT OF INTO SPACE!


BUT SOMEHOW MY RAY BACKFIRED BATHING ME WITH ANTI-GRAVITY FORCES!"
I'M RISING OFF THE GROUND, REPELLED BY EARTH'S GRAVITY!

I'LL SHOOT THROUGH THAT OPEN SKYLIGHT, AWAY FROM EARTH, INTO SPACE ITSELF! LUCKY I WAS ABLE TO GRAB THAT SPACE-SUIT I KEEP ON HAND FOR EMERGENCY!

"DONNING THE SPACE-SUIT WHILE RISING ABOVE EARTH, I SOON GATHERED SPEED AND SHOT INTO SPACE LIKE A ROCKET!"

WHENEVER I APPROACH A HEAVY MASS IN SPACE, ITS GRAVITY REPELS ME! THAT MEANS I CAN'T RETURN TO ANY WORLD, UNTIL MY ANTI-GRAVITY CHARGE WEARS OFF... IF IT EVER DOES!

I WAS EVEN REPELLED BY YOUR CAB! THAT'S WHY I HAD TO PULL MYSELF IN! FORTUNATELY, THE GRAVITATIONAL FORCES OF SMALL OBJECTS ARE NOT TOO GREAT!

THEN MAYBE I CAN LAND YOU ON SOME SMALL WORLD! IT'S WORTH A TRY!

"BUT WHEN I APPROACH THE ASTEROID JUNO, SMALLEST OF THE CIVILIZED WORLDS..."

WE'RE 500 MILES FROM JUNO, AND MY CAB HAS COME TO A STANDSTILL, EVEN UNDER FULL ROCKET POWER!

IT'S NO USE, CABBY! THE REPULSION AGAINST ME IN YOUR CAB IS TOO POWERFUL! YOU CAN'T DEPOSIT ME ANYWHERE!

THAT PUTS ME IN SOME FIX! WHILE YOU'RE IN MY CAB, I CAN'T LAND ANYWHERE EITHER! AND BY LAW, NO SPACE-TAXI CAN OUST A PASSENGER IN THE MIDDLE OF SPACE! WHEN WILL YOUR ANTI-GRAVITY WEAR OFF?

I...ER... DON'T KNOW! IT MAY BE SOON... OR NEVER!

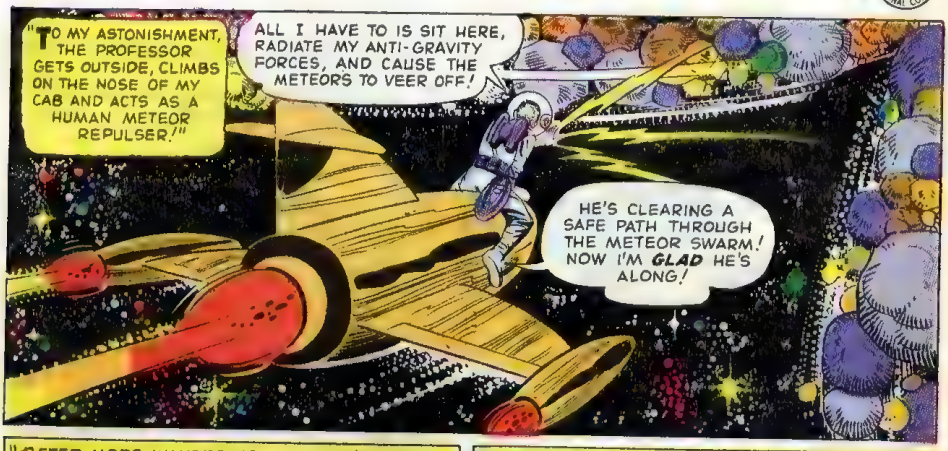
"WHAT A PREDICAMENT! ALL I CAN DO IS DRIVE AIMLESSLY THROUGH SPACE WITH MY ANTI-GRAVITY PASSENGER!"

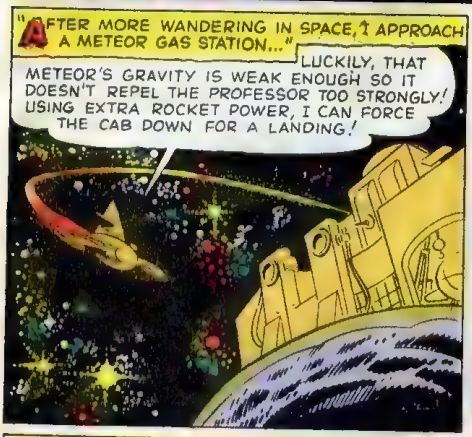
WH--WHAT HAPPENS WHEN MY FUEL RUNS OUT?

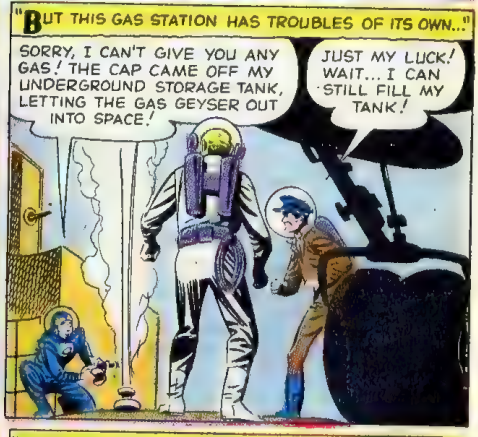
"SUDDENLY MY GLOOMY THOUGHTS ARE INTERRUPTED, WHEN WE MEET A METEOR SWARM!"

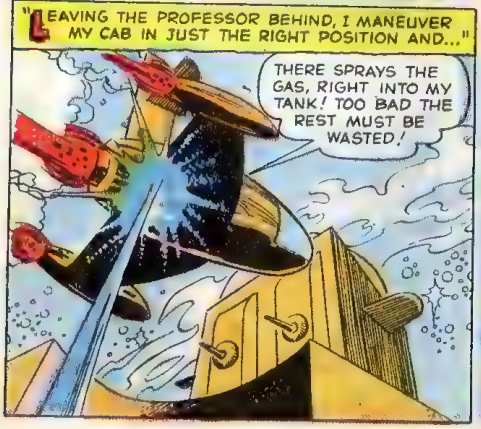
MY METEOR REPULSER'S GONE DEAD! WE'LL BE RIDDLED LIKE CHEESE...

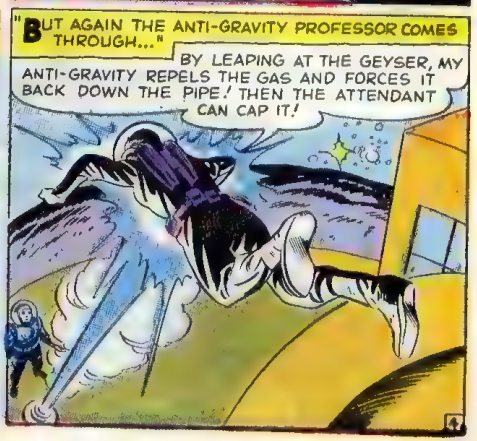
RELAX, CABBY! I CAN HELP YOU WITH MY STRANGE AFFLICTION!


"TO MY ASTONISHMENT, THE PROFESSOR GETS OUTSIDE, CLIMBS ON THE NOSE OF MY CAB AND ACTS AS A HUMAN METEOR REPULSER!"
ALL I HAVE TO IS SIT HERE, RADIATE MY ANTI-GRAVITY FORCES, AND CAUSE THE METEORS TO VEER OFF!
HE'S CLEARING A SAFE PATH THROUGH THE METEOR SWARM! NOW I'M GLAD HE'S ALONG!


"AFTER MORE WANDERING IN SPACE, I APPROACH A METEOR GAS STATION..."
METEOR'S GRAVITY IS WEAK ENOUGH SO IT DOESN'T REPEL THE PROFESSOR TOO STRONGLY! USING EXTRA ROCKET POWER, I CAN FORCE THE CAB DOWN FOR A LANDING!
LUCKILY, THAT


"BUT THIS GAS STATION HAS TROUBLES OF ITS OWN..."
SORRY, I CAN'T GIVE YOU ANY GAS! THE CAP CAME OFF MY UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK, LETTING THE GAS GEYSER OUT INTO SPACE!
JUST MY LUCK! WAIT... I CAN STILL FILL MY TANK!

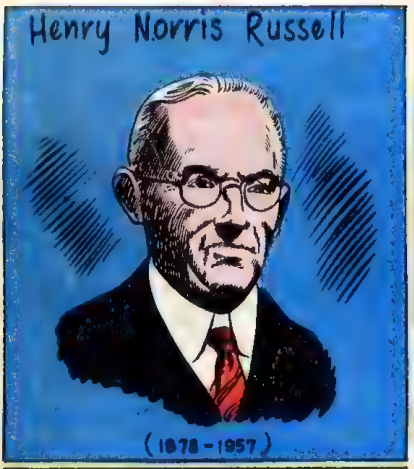

"LEAVING THE PROFESSOR BEHIND, I MANEUVER MY CAB IN JUST THE RIGHT POSITION AND..."
THERE SPRAYS THE GAS, RIGHT INTO MY TANK! TOO BAD THE REST MUST BE WASTED!


"BUT AGAIN THE ANTI-GRAVITY PROFESSOR COMES THROUGH..."
BY LEAPING AT THE GEYSER, MY ANTI-GRAVITY REPELS THE GAS AND FORCES IT BACK DOWN THE PIPE! THEN THE ATTENDANT CAN CAP IT!
4

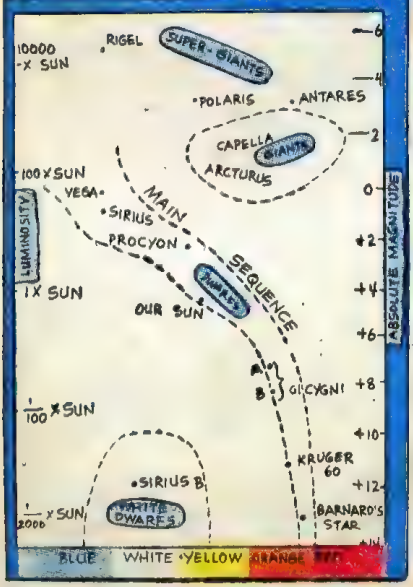
"MORE REFUELINGS FOR MY CAB FOLLOW, AS THE PROFESSOR AND I GO ON, HOUR AFTER HOUR, UNABLE TO REACH ANY PORT!"
SPENT ALL MY MONEY ON THAT LAST FUEL BILL! THE PROFESSOR'S RUNNING UP A BIG TRANSPORTATION FEE--B-BUT HOW'S HE GOING TO PAY FOR IT?
"AN IDEA STRIKES ME, HOW TO RECOUP! I DRIVE TO A CERTAIN ASTEROID..."
YEARS AGO, A SHIP CARRYING GOLD WENT TOO CLOSE AND CRASHED ON THIS MAGNETIC ASTEROID! BUT THIS IS ONE WORLD WHERE WE CAN SAFELY LAND... AND NOBODY ELSE CAN!
WARNING! MAGNETIC ASTEROID AHEAD! DO NOT APPROACH WITHIN 1000 MILES!
"I'M NOT BRAGGING BUT MY IDEA IS WORTHY OF A GENIUS!"
YOU SEE, PROFESSOR, THE MAGNETIC ASTEROID'S GRAVITY REPELS YOU, ENOUGH TO CANCEL SOME OF THE MAGNETISM! THAT ALLOWS US TO LAND GENTLY, WITHOUT CRASHING!
"EVEN THOUGH IT STARTS TO RAIN WHEN WE LAND, MY SPIRITS AREN'T DAMPENED..."
THE MAGNETIC PULL HERE WORKS ON METAL, WOOD, GLASS, PEOPLE... EVERYTHING! IT'S HARD TO WALK!
NOT FOR ME! MY ANTI-GRAVITY PARTLY NEUTRALIZES THE MAGNETISM! BUT WILL IT ALLOW US TO TAKE OFF AGAIN?
I FIGURED OUT THAT EVEN WITH THIS LOAD OF GOLD, YOUR ANTI-GRAVITY WILL "LIFT" THE CAB JUST ENOUGH, SO THAT WE CAN TAKE-OFF WITH FULL ROCKET POWER!
"SURE, I HAVE IT ALL FIGURED OUT...EXCEPT ONE THING!"
OHHH! I-I SUDDENLY FEEL THE FULL POWER OF THE MAGNETISM! THAT MEANS MY ANTI-GRAVITY JUST WORE OFF!
OH, NO! JUST AT THE WRONG TIME! WE'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO TAKE OFF NOW!

"I TRY FULL ROCKET POWER BUT..."
WE DIDN'T MOVE!... WE'RE STRANDED!
"BUT SOMETHING LURKS IN THE BACK OF MY MIND..."
IT WAS RAINING BEFORE, REMEMBER? RAIN IS CAUSED BY WATER-VAPOR RISING TO FORM CLOUDS--AND--
YOU HIT IT, CABBY! IT MEANS THAT THERE IS ONE THING HERE IMMUNE TO THE SUPER-MAGNETISM... WATER!
"SOON, USING BUCKETS WE FIND IN THE SPACE-SHIP WRECK..."
I TURNED MY CAB'S COOLING-SYSTEM TO HIGH! AS WE THROW WATER FROM THE LAKE OVER MY CAB, IT FREEZES TO ICE!
"THEN, COATED WITH ANTI-MAGNETIC ICE, WE ESCAPE THE MAGNET WORLD!"
AND NOW THAT YOUR ANTI-GRAVITY'S GONE, PROFESSOR, I CAN DELIVER YOU TO EARTH!
IT'LL SURE BE GOOD TO PLANT MY FEET ON TERRA FIRMA AGAIN!
"ON EARTH, AFTER WE DELIVER THE LONG-LOST CARGO TO ITS OWNERS..."
WE GOT A NICE PERCENTAGE AS A REWARD! HALF IS YOURS, PROFESSOR!
KEEP IT, CABBY, IN PAYMENT OF MY LONG TAXI RIDE! JUST TAKE ME BACK TO MY LAB WHERE I CAN CONTINUE MY ANTI-GRAVITY EXPERIMENTS!
"AT HIS LAB, AFTER I CAUTION THE PROFESSOR TO BE MORE CAREFUL..."
WELL, IF I RUN INTO ANY MORE TROUBLE, I KNOW THE RIGHT MAN TO CALL... YOU, SPACE-CABBY!
OH, YEAH? IF I SEE HIM IN SPACE AGAIN, I'LL PUT ON MY EAR PLUGS!
THE END

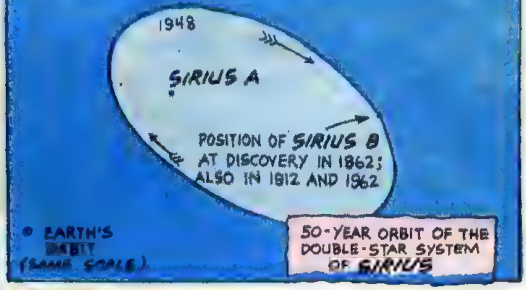
GIANTS OF THE TELESCOPE



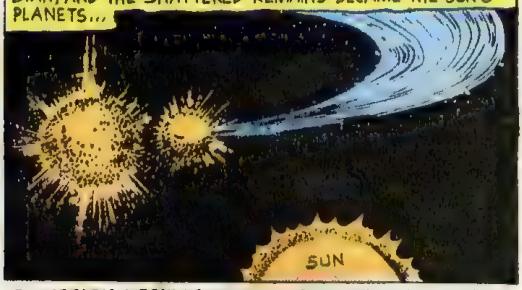
PROBABLY HIS OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT WAS THE "*RUSSELL DIAGRAM*"--SHOWING THE RELATION BETWEEN THE ABSOLUTE MAGNITUDES AND SPECTRA OF STARS. BRIGHT STARS ARE NEAR THE TOP OF THE DIAGRAM, FAINT STARS AT THE BOTTOM, RED STARS AT THE RIGHT, AND WHITE ONES AT THE LEFT...



CALLED THE "*DEAN OF AMERICAN ASTRONOMERS.*" DR. RUSSELL WON AN EARLY MEASURE OF FAME BY DEVISING A STATISTICAL PROCESS FOR DETERMINING THE INDIVIDUAL STAR MASSES AND ORBITS OF DOUBLE-STAR SYSTEMS...

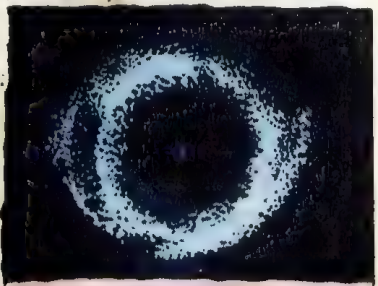

1948
SIRIUS A
POSITION OF SIRIUS B AT DISCOVERY IN 1862; ALSO IN 1912 AND 1962
EARTH'S ORBIT (SAME SCALE)
50-YEAR ORBIT OF THE DOUBLE-STAR SYSTEM OF SIRIUS

DR. RUSSELL THEORIZED THAT OUR SUN WAS FORMERLY A COMPONENT OF A DOUBLE-STAR SYSTEM. BY CHANCE, A RUNAWAY STAR CRASHED INTO THE SUN'S COMPANION STAR, AND THE SHATTERED REMAINS BECAME THE SUN'S PLANETS...



PLANETARY NEBULAE WERE DESCRIBED BY RUSSELL AS "*THE MOST UNUSUAL OBJECTS KNOWN TO ASTRONOMY.*" THEY ARE LIKE A MASS OF LUMINOUS, VERY TRANSPARENT FOG, ROUND OR OVAL IN SHAPE, AND OFTEN WITH A VERY HOT, BLUE STAR IN THE MIDDLE.

PLANETARY NEBULAE ARE FAR BIGGER THAN OUR SOLAR SYSTEM, AND SO TRANSPARENT THAT WE CAN SEE RIGHT THROUGH SOME OF THEM TO DISTANCES EXCEEDING 100,000 MILLION MILES...



PLANETARY NEBULA IN AQUARIUS--PHOTOGRAPHED WITH 200-INCH TELESCOPE. ITS LUMINOSITY IS DUE TO ULTRA-VIOLET RADIATION FROM A HOT STAR.

WONDERS of SPACE

LONG before the invention of the telescope in 1609 it was known that there were distinctive markings on the moon. Ancient peoples devised fanciful tales to account for the lunar features, but it wasn't until Galileo, the inventor of the telescope, turned his optical eyepiece upon our satellite did we realize that earth's closest neighbor was a world with geographical features somewhat like our own.

Mountains could be distinctly seen, and the dark patches of plains—which were first mistakenly thought to be vast seas—were given such poetic and picturesque names as the Sea of Serenity, Sea of Tranquility, and so on.

The most prominent surface features of the moon are the thousands of extraordinary craters which range completely over the satellite. Actually, the name "crater" is not an accurate one, at least as far as the resemblance to the craters on earth are concerned. Lunar craters are great circular pits with sunken floors and high mountainous ramparts. The mountain walls rise to tremendous heights above the sunken interiors, but the walls are not high above the outer country, and it is more accurate to think of the craters as "rimmed holes."

Though astronomers have devised a number of theories to account for the origin of the lunar craters, none of them has been generally accepted. It is interesting to note that as early as the 12th century, Alexander Neckham, foster brother of King Richard the Lion Heart, attempted to explain the moon's "pocked-marked" face.

Neckham wrote in "The Natures of Things" that while his contemporaries explained the "spots on the moon" as due to mountains and depressions which the sun's light cannot reach, or due to the natural obscurity of parts of the moon's body, he was convinced that the heavenly bodies are stained by the sins of our ancestors. He held out the promise, however, that "when all the planets and stars shall stand as it were justified, our state too will become stable, and both the moon and Holy Church will be spotless before the Lamb!"

The first credible crater origin theory holds that the depressions are due to volcanic action. Skeptical astronomers point out that while volcanic action could conceivably account for many of the craters, it falls short of explaining the formation of so many of the more gigantic craters.

A second hypothesis assumes that the craters were produced by tremendous masses of gas bursting through the moon's crust when it was still in a more or less viscuous state and shrinking.

Probably the most favored explanation is the so-called "meteoric theory"—in which the craters were formed by the impact of gigantic meteors colliding with the moon. Experiments made by shooting bullets into plates of lead have shown formations closely resembling those of the lunar craters.

The weakness of the meteoric theory is that the earth fails to show any correspondingly numerous and massive craters. Indeed, the only possible terrestrial crater that can be attributed to the fall of a meteor is the crater near Canon Diablo, Arizona.

Another fatal weakness of the meteor theory is that it does not account for the numerous circular craters on the moon. If these were made by the impact of meteors of tremendous size, the meteors must have fallen *vertically* onto the moon's surface! But this seems astronomically unlikely. Meteors traveling through space naturally collide with a spherical body like the moon at a *tangent*—mere glancing blows.

Thus, like the formation of the earth, solar system, even the universe—the formation of the craters of the moon must remain an astronomical riddle for future generations to solve.

VACATION on the MOON!

JOHN HARGRAVE WAS LOOKING FORWARD TO A QUIET, RELAXING VACATION, BUT HE NEVER IMAGINED IT WOULD BE SPENT *ON THE MOON!* FOR TO HIS ASTONISHMENT, HE LEARNED THAT SPACE-TRAVEL BETWEEN THE EARTH AND THE MOON HAD BEEN SECRETLY GOING ON EVER SINCE COLONIAL DAYS!

HERE COME THE INVADERS OF THE MOON! WHAT CAN I, AN *EARTHMAN* IN A *MOONMAN'S* BODY, DO TO STOP THEM?

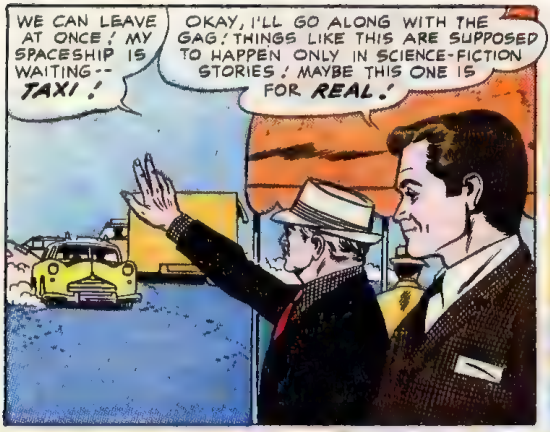
JUST OUTSIDE A TRAVEL BUREAU OFF BROADWAY...

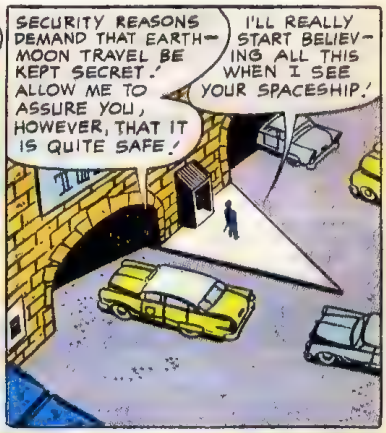
WHEW! THE AGENT GAVE ME SO MANY SUGGESTIONS AND TRAVEL FOLDERS, IT'LL BE HARD TO MAKE UP MY MIND WHERE TO SPEND MY VACATION!

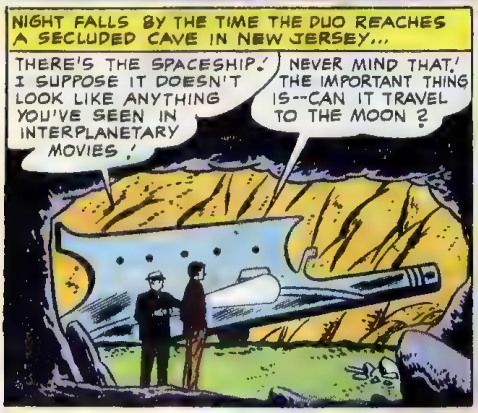
EXCUSE ME, SIR! WOULD YOU CONSIDER GOING TO A REALLY *DIFFERENT* PLACE?

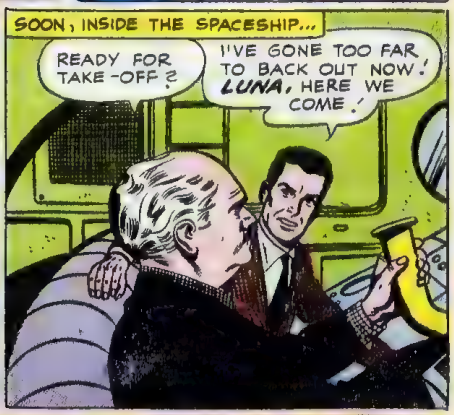
SURE, IF IT'S NOT EXPENSIVE! WHAT PLACE IS IT?

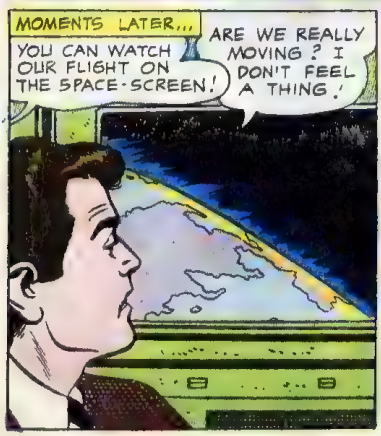
THE MOON-- AND IT'S EXPENSE-FREE!

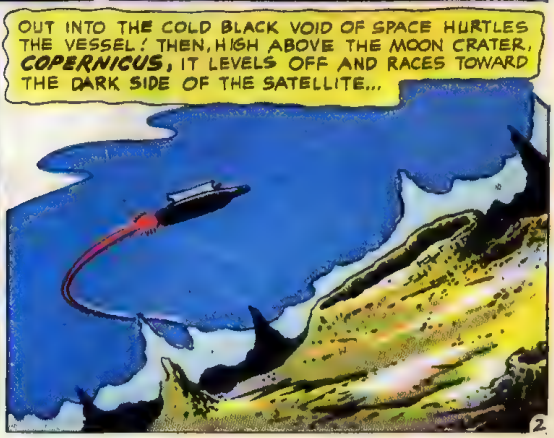

WE CAN LEAVE AT ONCE! MY SPACESHIP IS WAITING-- TAXI!
OKAY, I'LL GO ALONG WITH THE GAG! THINGS LIKE THIS ARE SUPPOSED TO HAPPEN ONLY IN SCIENCE-FICTION STORIES! MAYBE THIS ONE IS FOR REAL!

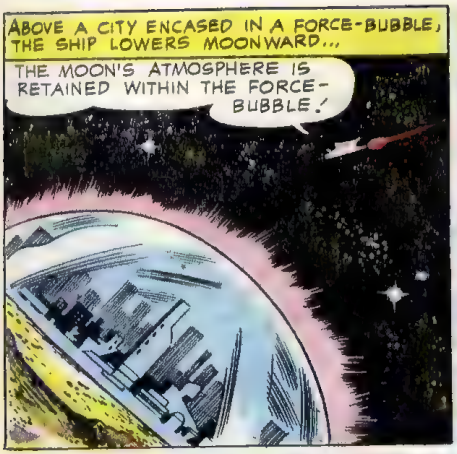

SECURITY REASONS DEMAND THAT EARTH-MOON TRAVEL BE KEPT SECRET! ALLOW ME TO ASSURE YOU, HOWEVER, THAT IT IS QUITE SAFE!
I'LL REALLY START BELIEVING ALL THIS WHEN I SEE YOUR SPACESHIP!

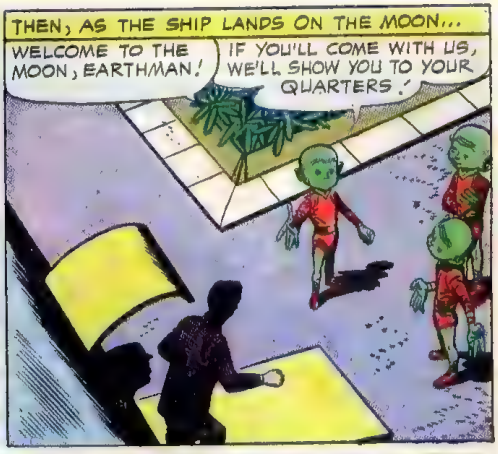

NIGHT FALLS BY THE TIME THE DUO REACHES A SECLUDED CAVE IN NEW JERSEY...
THERE'S THE SPACESHIP! I SUPPOSE IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE ANYTHING YOU'VE SEEN IN INTERPLANETARY MOVIES!
NEVER MIND THAT! THE IMPORTANT THING IS--CAN IT TRAVEL TO THE MOON?


SOON, INSIDE THE SPACESHIP...
READY FOR TAKE-OFF?
I'VE GONE TOO FAR TO BACK OUT NOW! LUNA, HERE WE COME!

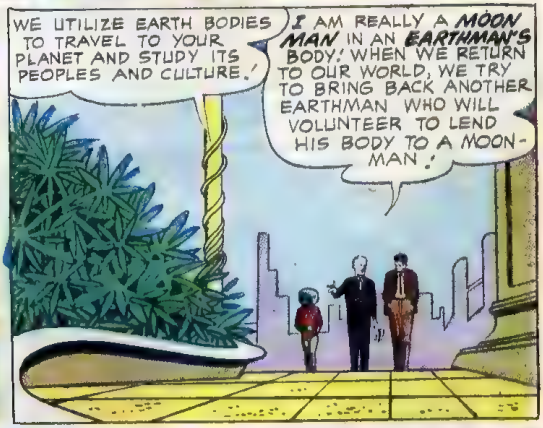

MOMENTS LATER...
YOU CAN WATCH OUR FLIGHT ON THE SPACE-SCREEN!
ARE WE REALLY MOVING? I DON'T FEEL A THING!

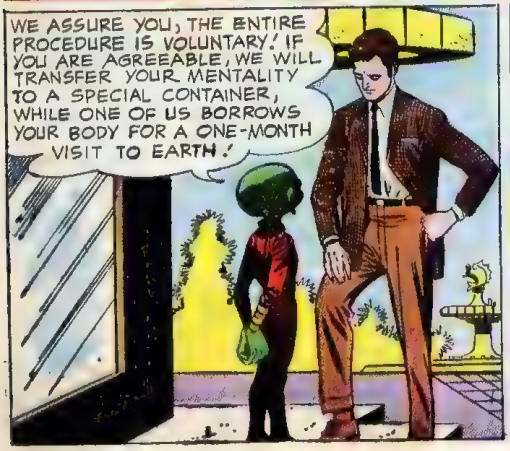

OUT INTO THE COLD BLACK VOID OF SPACE HURTLES THE VESSEL! THEN, HIGH ABOVE THE MOON CRATER, COPERNICUS, IT LEVELS OFF AND RACES TOWARD THE DARK SIDE OF THE SATELLITE...


ABOVE A CITY ENCASED IN A FORCE-BUBBLE, THE SHIP LOWERS MOONWARD...
THE MOON'S ATMOSPHERE IS RETAINED WITHIN THE FORCE-BUBBLE!

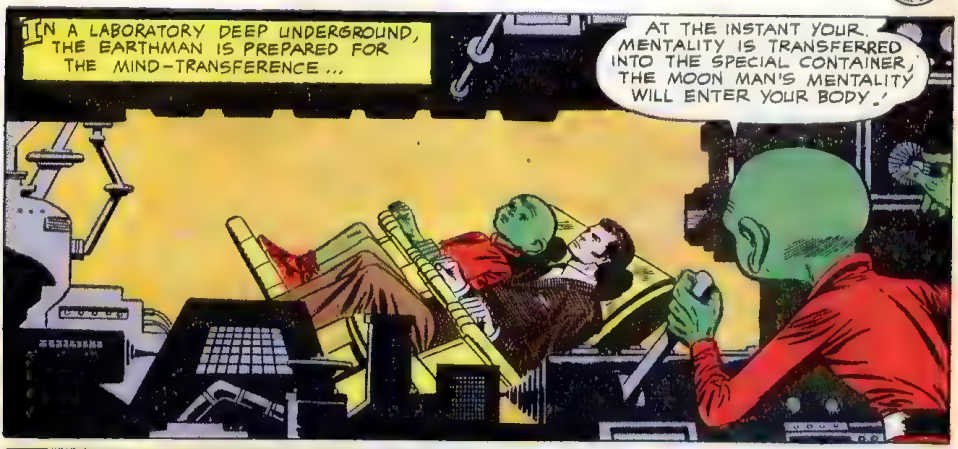

THEN, AS THE SHIP LANDS ON THE MOON...
WELCOME TO THE MOON, EARTHMAN!
IF YOU'LL COME WITH US, WE'LL SHOW YOU TO YOUR QUARTERS!

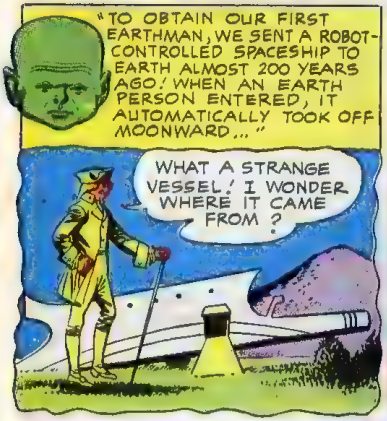
FOR A MILLION YEARS OUR PEOPLE HAVE LIVED ON THE MOON! IT WAS OUR SPACE-SHIP -- NOT AN EARTHMAN'S -- THAT BROUGHT YOU HERE! WHILE WE CAN SEND OUR SHIPS THROUGH SPACE, OUR BODIES ARE TOO WEAK TO ENDURE THE TRIP!

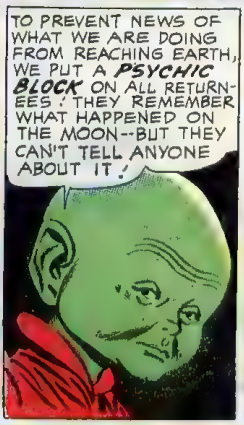

WE UTILIZE EARTH BODIES TO TRAVEL TO YOUR PLANET AND STUDY ITS PEOPLES AND CULTURE!
I AM REALLY A MOON MAN IN AN EARTHMAN'S BODY! WHEN WE RETURN TO OUR WORLD, WE TRY TO BRING BACK ANOTHER EARTHMAN WHO WILL VOLUNTEER TO LEND HIS BODY TO A MOON-MAN!

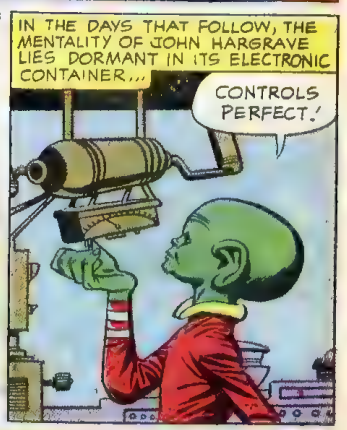

WE ASSURE YOU, THE ENTIRE PROCEDURE IS VOLUNTARY! IF YOU ARE AGREEABLE, WE WILL TRANSFER YOUR MENTALITY TO A SPECIAL CONTAINER, WHILE ONE OF US BORROWS YOUR BODY FOR A ONE-MONTH VISIT TO EARTH!

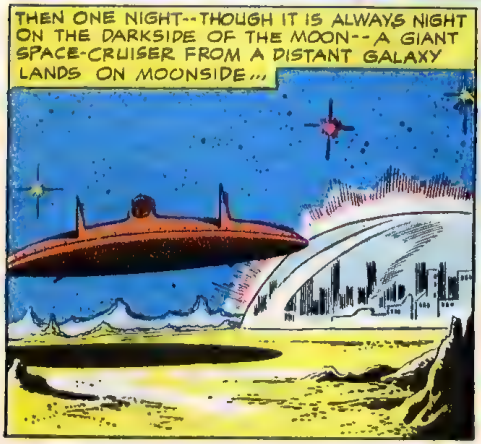
WHAT SAY YOU, JOHN HARGRAVE? WILL YOU LEND ONE OF US YOUR BODY? WE CAN OFFER YOU NO REWARD --
THIS IS THE MOST FANTASTIC THING IMAGINABLE! BUT -- WELL, I WANTED A RELAXING, QUIET VACATION -- AND THIS IS IT! SURE, I VOLUNTEER!

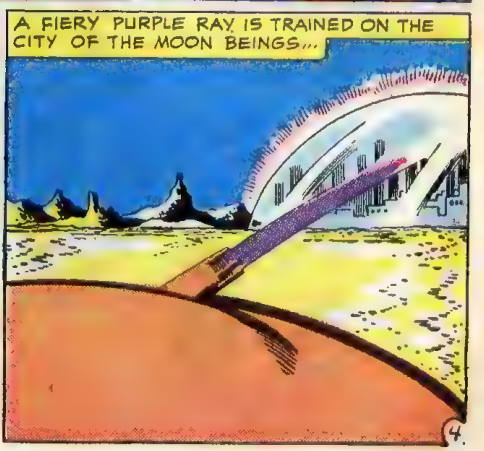

IN A LABORATORY DEEP UNDERGROUND, THE EARTHMAN IS PREPARED FOR THE MIND-TRANSFERENCE ...
AT THE INSTANT YOUR MENTALITY IS TRANSFERRED INTO THE SPECIAL CONTAINER, THE MOON MAN'S MENTALITY WILL ENTER YOUR BODY.!

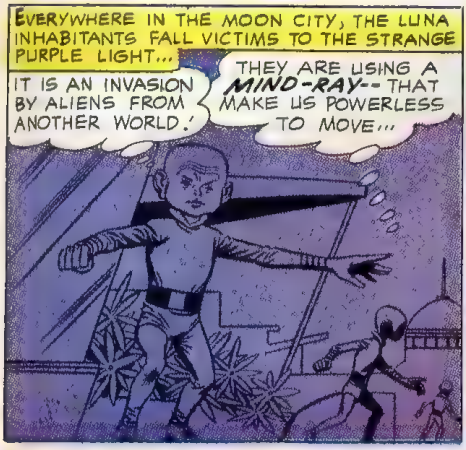

"TO OBTAIN OUR FIRST EARTHMAN, WE SENT A ROBOT-CONTROLLED SPACESHIP TO EARTH ALMOST 200 YEARS AGO.! WHEN AN EARTH PERSON ENTERED, IT AUTOMATICALLY TOOK OFF MOONWARD ... "
WHAT A STRANGE VESSEL.! I WONDER WHERE IT CAME FROM ?

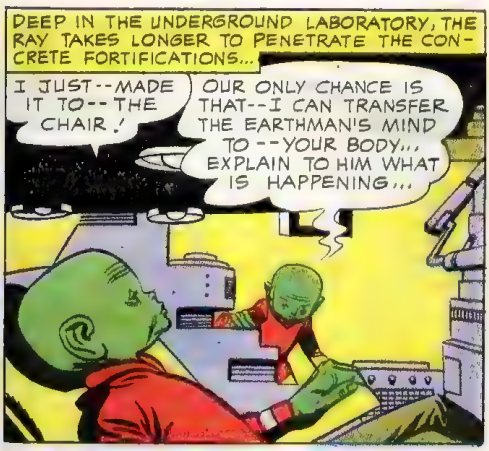

TO PREVENT NEWS OF WHAT WE ARE DOING FROM REACHING EARTH, WE PUT A PSYCHIC BLOCK ON ALL RETURNEES.! THEY REMEMBER WHAT HAPPENED ON THE MOON--BUT THEY CAN'T TELL ANYONE ABOUT IT.!

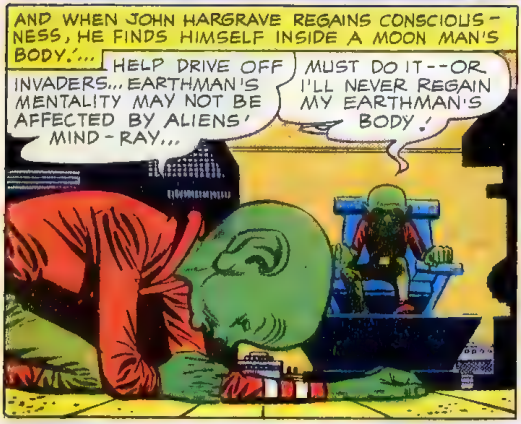

IN THE DAYS THAT FOLLOW, THE MENTALITY OF JOHN HARGRAVE LIES DORMANT IN ITS ELECTRONIC CONTAINER ...
CONTROLS PERFECT.!

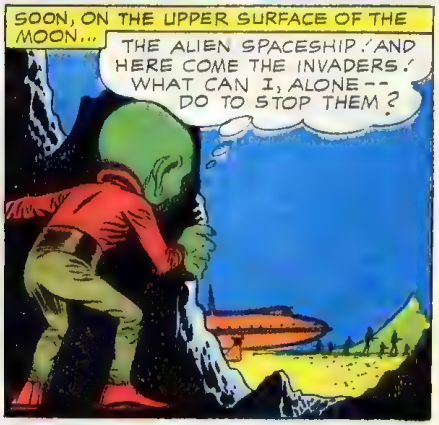

THEN ONE NIGHT--THOUGH IT IS ALWAYS NIGHT ON THE DARKSIDE OF THE MOON--A GIANT SPACE-CRUISER FROM A DISTANT GALAXY LANDS ON MOONSIDE ...

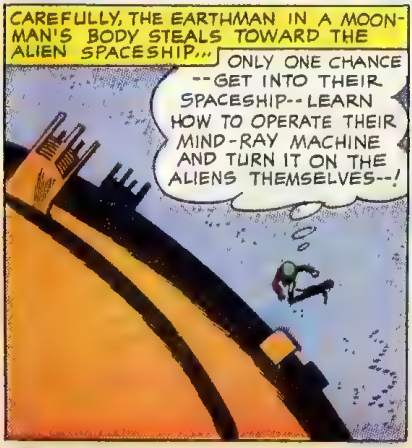

A FIERY PURPLE RAY IS TRAINED ON THE CITY OF THE MOON BEINGS ...

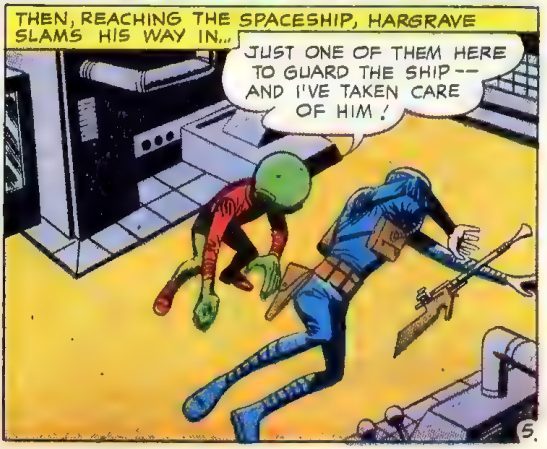

EVERYWHERE IN THE MOON CITY, THE LUNA INHABITANTS FALL VICTIMS TO THE STRANGE PURPLE LIGHT...
IT IS AN INVASION BY ALIENS FROM ANOTHER WORLD.'
THEY ARE USING A MIND-RAY--THAT MAKE US POWERLESS TO MOVE...

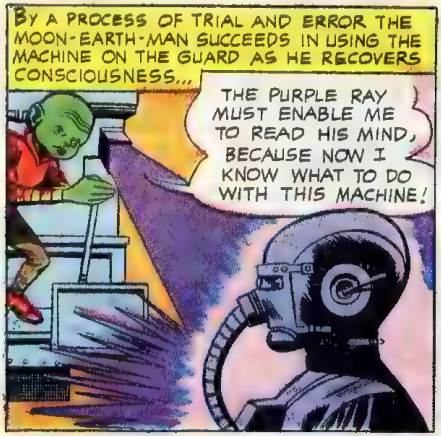

DEEP IN THE UNDERGROUND LABORATORY, THE RAY TAKES LONGER TO PENETRATE THE CONCRETE FORTIFICATIONS...
I JUST--MADE IT TO--THE CHAIR.'
OUR ONLY CHANCE IS THAT--I CAN TRANSFER THE EARTHMAN'S MIND TO--YOUR BODY... EXPLAIN TO HIM WHAT IS HAPPENING...

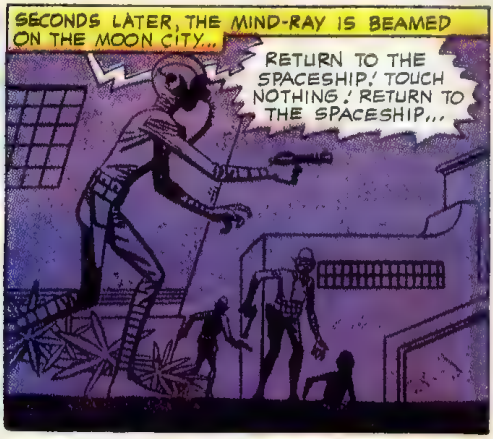

AND WHEN JOHN HARGRAVE REGAINS CONSCIOUSNESS, HE FINDS HIMSELF INSIDE A MOON MAN'S BODY.'...
HELP DRIVE OFF INVADERS... EARTHMAN'S MENTALITY MAY NOT BE AFFECTED BY ALIENS' MIND-RAY...
MUST DO IT--OR I'LL NEVER REGAIN MY EARTHMAN'S BODY.'


SOON, ON THE UPPER SURFACE OF THE MOON...
THE ALIEN SPACESHIP.' AND HERE COME THE INVADERS.' WHAT CAN I, ALONE--DO TO STOP THEM?

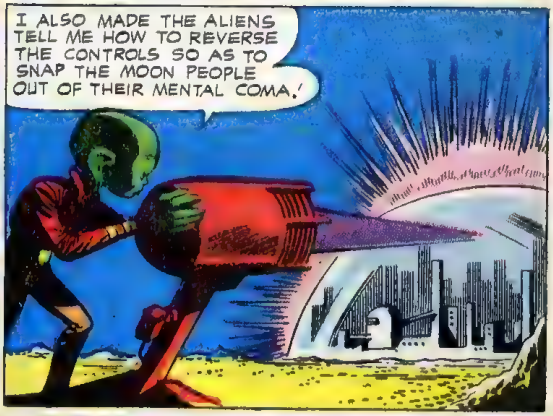

CAREFULLY, THE EARTHMAN IN A MOON-MAN'S BODY STEALS TOWARD THE ALIEN SPACESHIP...
ONLY ONE CHANCE--GET INTO THEIR SPACESHIP--LEARN HOW TO OPERATE THEIR MIND-RAY MACHINE AND TURN IT ON THE ALIENS THEMSELVES--!

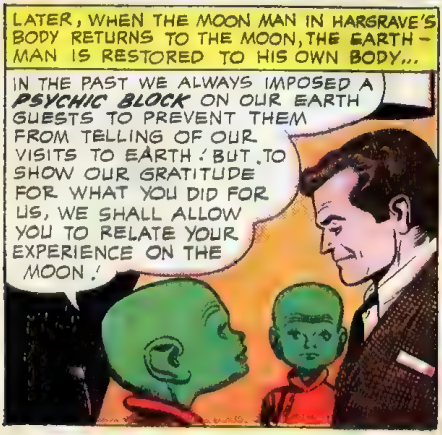

THEN, REACHING THE SPACESHIP, HARGRAVE SLAMS HIS WAY IN...
JUST ONE OF THEM HERE TO GUARD THE SHIP--AND I'VE TAKEN CARE OF HIM!

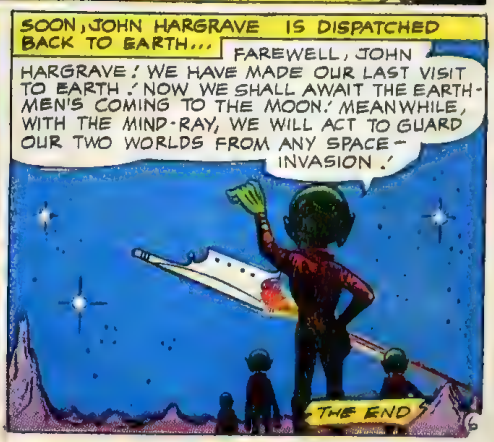

BY A PROCESS OF TRIAL AND ERROR THE MOON-EARTH-MAN SUCCEEDS IN USING THE MACHINE ON THE GUARD AS HE RECOVERS CONSCIOUSNESS...
THE PURPLE RAY MUST ENABLE ME TO READ HIS MIND, BECAUSE NOW I KNOW WHAT TO DO WITH THIS MACHINE!


SECONDS LATER, THE MIND-RAY IS BEAMED ON THE MOON CITY...
RETURN TO THE SPACESHIP! TOUCH NOTHING! RETURN TO THE SPACESHIP...

UNDER THE MENTAL ORDERS FROM THE EARTHMAN, THE ALIENS DISCONNECT THEIR MIND-RAY MACHINE AND PLACE IT IN THE MOON CITY...
I'VE ORDERED THEM TO GO BACK TO THEIR OWN GALAXY AND FORGET WHAT HAPPENED HERE!


I ALSO MADE THE ALIENS TELL ME HOW TO REVERSE THE CONTROLS SO AS TO SNAP THE MOON PEOPLE OUT OF THEIR MENTAL COMA.


LATER, WHEN THE MOON MAN IN HARGRAVE'S BODY RETURNS TO THE MOON, THE EARTH-MAN IS RESTORED TO HIS OWN BODY...
IN THE PAST WE ALWAYS IMPOSED A PSYCHIC BLOCK ON OUR EARTH GUESTS TO PREVENT THEM FROM TELLING OF OUR VISITS TO EARTH! BUT, TO SHOW OUR GRATITUDE FOR WHAT YOU DID FOR US, WE SHALL ALLOW YOU TO RELATE YOUR EXPERIENCE ON THE MOON!


SOON, JOHN HARGRAVE IS DISPATCHED BACK TO EARTH...
FAREWELL, JOHN HARGRAVE! WE HAVE MADE OUR LAST VISIT TO EARTH! NOW WE SHALL AWAIT THE EARTHMEN'S COMING TO THE MOON! MEANWHILE, WITH THE MIND-RAY, WE WILL ACT TO GUARD OUR TWO WORLDS FROM ANY SPACE-INVASION!
THE END

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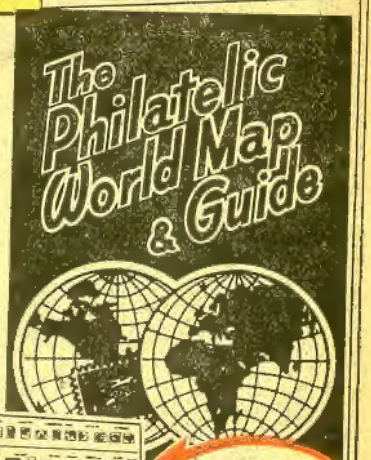

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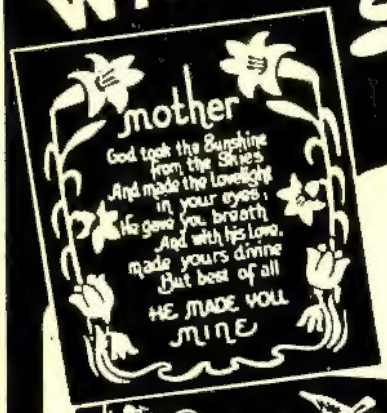

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I pray the Lord my soul to take

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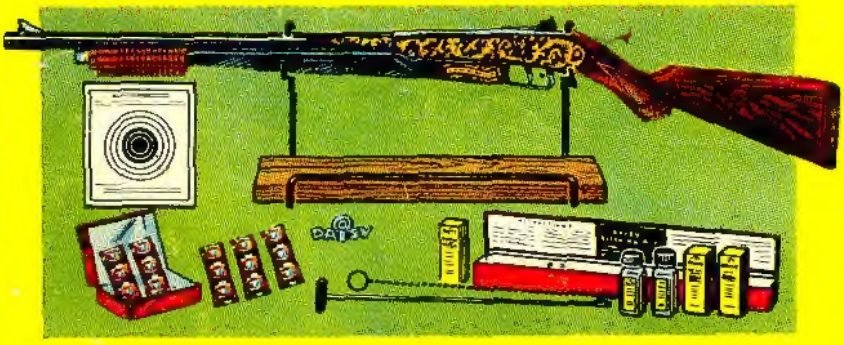

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